

# AMAA News

Publication of the Armenian Missionary Association of America  
**AUG/SEPT/OCT 2002 - Vol. XXXVI No. 4 (ISSN 1097-0924)**

The Rev. Jirair Sogomian  
Editor



**Retiring Haigazian University President, the Rev. Dr. John Khanjian  
Welcomes the New President, the Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian  
(see story on pages 10-11)**

## *“A Test of Our Stewardship”*

**Rev. Jirair M. Sogomian**

*These, indeed, are unusual times for us all! As we approach the first anniversary of that infamous 11<sup>th</sup> day of September in the history of the United States of America, we share the lingering grief and pain of the families and friends of those thousands of innocent victims who perished in such tragic circumstances. However, deeply aware of our shrinking world, often described as a global village, we also share the grief and pain of the least of God’s children around the world who are daily victimized by irrational and inhuman violence, and by the deeply encrusted human injustice and greed that hold our world hostage to unrighteousness and senseless suffering.*

**N**eedless to say, our world has been affected in more than one way by the escalation of unbridled hatred, boundless brutality and insatiable human greed. The economic downturn in our country, caused by these and other conditions, has seriously affected not only the pocketbooks of millions of people, but has also seriously curtailed our ability to reach out to alleviate the painful needs of the hungry, homeless and the poor of our world.

For over a decade, experiencing the blessings of a bull market and the resulting generosity of those who shared their blessings, we expanded our mission to reach out to the crying needs of those who did not share the superabundance of the resources a booming market availed to us. Though we had started our mission outreach with certain limits in mind, overwhelmed by human need, we far surpassed those quotas and goals initially intended, and our budget grew by leaps and bounds as we passed on the fruits of God’s generosity through the gifts, trusts and bequests of humble or large donors.

The days and years of such abundance have now temporarily halted, and the lean years have overtaken us injecting their healthy realism into our incurable optimism. These are times that remind us of God’s provision of manna in the wilderness, which could

not be hoarded and stored up for the future. These are times that test the mettle of our faith, the genuineness of our Christian stewardship, and the honesty of our motives in giving and sharing that others may survive times harsher than we have ever experienced! These are times that call us to new standards of giving that are truly sacrificial and self-denying. These are times that call us to relinquish anxiety about our own economic security and to seek first God’s kingdom and righteousness.

For many years, the vast majority of us, with few stellar exceptions, gave out of our abundance. We gave, many quite generously, but from our leftovers and abundant taxable funds, justifiably reasoning that our money can bring about greater good through charitable organizations than government allocations and grants. But now, we find ourselves in times when our giving can make us feel that something is missing from us, anointing our generosity with a spirit of sacrifice and self-denial. Now is the time when God tests our deepest motives and genuine intentions in sharing blessings that God has entrusted to us for a short while as stewards of God’s mercies. May the challenge of our times be to us a hidden blessing to nurture our souls and to strengthen our resolve to be God’s good and faithful stewards! G

## What Armenia Needs Most Today: True Patriots

by Rev. Dr. Giragos H. Chopourian

The Declaration of Independence signed by the 56 members of the United States of America composed of thirteen states is not only fascinating reading but also an inspirational one as well. It was signed and founded on July 2, 1776. The idea that July 4 was the date arose from a mistake in the first printed version of the journals of the Congress.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness," read the Declaration. It added, "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.....

"We therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America.....do, in the Name, and by authority of the good people of these Colonies solemnly publish and declare.....And for the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we **mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.**"

These are profound and courageous words, indeed.

The question that arose in my mind was: "Did they keep their pledge?"

I had not realized that these 56 patriots had stayed faithful to their pledge through thick and thin. **More through thick.** They knew that the penalty, when caught, would be certain death.

My question was answered on reading an article that revealed the troubles and tortures they had suffered. I cannot vouch if one hundred percent of the article is factually correct, but they appeared to be perfectly true to me.

"Five signers were captured by the

British as traitors and tortured before they died. Twelve had their houses ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons who served in the Revolutionary Army. Another had two sons captured. Nine fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They were men of means and status: Lawyers (24), Merchants (11), Farmers and plantation owners (9). Carter Braxton of Virginia saw his ships swept from the seas by the British. He sold his home, paid his debts and died in rags. Thomas McKean served in the Congress without pay and was hounded by the British. His possessions were taken and poverty became his reward. Thomas Nelson, Jr. saw his house made the headquarters of British General Cornwallis. He urged Gen. Washington to open fire on his house and destroy it. Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis' house was destroyed and his wife died within a few months following her jailing. John Hart lived in forests and caves for more than a year. When he returned home, he found his wife dead and his thirteen children gone. Shortly after returning home he died heartbroken. Robert Harris and Philip Livingston suffered similar fates."

Great were the sacrifices of wealthy, highly educated and secure men for the success of the American Revolution. They valued liberty above everything else. They were genuine patriots, devoted and loyal to the cause of liberty and sacred life. The United State was put on an unshakable foundation. Standing tall and unwavering, to repeat, they vowed in these words: "**We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.**" Too often most Americans take the liberties and the selfless patriotism of courageous



men for granted.

Now, in contrast, what do we hear and read about the leadership of Armenia? The following kind of words appear in the news media of the country: Amassing wealth, hiding wealth to avoid taxation, corruption, political intriguing, bribing. How much of these are true, I have no clue, but I am reminded of the famous old saying, "Where there's smoke, there's fire." We do not hear or read about unselfishness, self-sacrifice or patriotic fervor by the governors of Armenia: such as the members of Parliament and the members of the Cabinet.

"There is no royal road to Geometry," as the saying goes. No secure and unshakable foundation can be laid for a nation without unselfish patriotism. And without matching the patriotism of the Founders of the United States of America on behalf of the governors, such as the members of Parliament and the Cabinet, not much good can take place, unless of course they would have the courage and fortitude to pledge their "Lives, Fortunes and sacred Honor" for the betterment of Armenia and the restoration of faith of the Armenian population in the Government. G

## AMAA Armenia Summer Camps 2002

by Harout Nercessian

The 12-year old AMAA Armenia Summer Camp activities are an integral part of its Christian Education program. Every summer thousands of children participate in Summer and Day Camps where they enjoy nutritious meals, participate in outdoor and indoor games, take part in Arts and Crafts activities, receive Biblical instruction, watch instructive, yet entertaining dramas and more. Most important though, these youngsters' lives are changed as they experience God's love and care. They experience the loving care of their camp counselors who spend much time listening, talking, playing and praying with them. At the end of the camp, many return home with tears of joy and a determination to live in obedience to God.

Most of the children that attend the camps are needy. Many come in old and worn-out clothes. Thanks to the generosity of friends in North America, AMAA was able to give shoes and clothing to many campers. Overall, AMAA distributed over 900 pairs of sneakers and shoes, over 250 pairs of shorts, over 700 sweatshirts and T-Shirts. Over 1000 jeans were also received and will be distributed later.

During Summer 2002, three thousand four hundred needy children participated in AMAA Armenia camps that were held in three locations: Camp Lori in Northern Armenia – 180 children participated in each of the seven, one-week camp sessions; Camp Datev in Aghveran region (North-East of Yerevan) – 180 children participated in each of the seven, one-week camp sessions; and Camp Kar-Kar in Stepanakert, Karabagh (Southern Region) – 180 children participated in each of five, one-week camp sessions.

The campers were divided into groups of nine. Each group was led by a camp counselor who supervised his/her group 24 hours a day. The group slept in the same room, ate at the same table and together participated in all the activities.

The daily program consisted of morning exercises, group devotions, worship services, Bible lessons, three daily meals, arts & crafts, games and variety nights.

AMAA Summer camps reach out to children's physical, emotional and spiritual needs.  
*(continued on the following page)*



## *AMAA Introduces "Healing the Children" to Armenia*

by Dikran Youmshakian

In January of 2001 AMAA Vice President, Mr. Robert Hekemian introduced AMAA to Healing the Children (HTC), a kindred organization dedicated to helping children around the world, who also showed interest to help children in Armenia. Ever since the devastating earthquake of 1988 in Armenia, AMAA has been involved in efforts to support the orphaned and needy children in Armenia. Through its Orphan/Child Care, Summer Camp and Milk Fund programs, AMAA has saved the lives of thousands of children in Armenia and has given them hope for the future. Along with its relief aid, AMAA has also provided free medical and dental care. AMAA's medical clinic in Yerevan today continues to serve the needs of hundreds of children in Armenia.

HTC is a national non-profit organization dedicated to providing free medical care to needy children around the world. The nationwide organization, which was founded in 1979, has 13 active chapters. In 1981 the Midlantic Chapter was organized with its headquarters in Butler, New Jersey. It draws support from the states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina. Since 1979, HTC has provided medical care assistance to 63,000 children from 86 countries. HTC delivers its service through volunteer medical teams who travel to developing nations. The teams

are comprised of physicians, dentists, nurses and HTC staff. The care delivered includes dental, pediatric plastic and reconstructive surgery, ophthalmology, urology, otolaryngology and orthopedics. Volunteer medical professionals donate their services, which

are provided free of charge to all children with no discrimination of age and denomination. One of the recent medical services of the HTC was the separation in California of the Guatemalan twins conjoined at the head.

With the same goal in their hearts, AMAA made a formal overture to HTC for cooperation in Armenia. Preliminary inquiries were made with health officials in Armenia to verify the feasibility of this program in Armenia. The Arabkir Medical Center was recognized as a prospective facility to coordinate such assistance. The Center has adequate departments i.e. pediatric surgery, pediatric urology, pediatric nephrology, hemodialysis and intensive care units which could be utilized. The Center has made a formal request "to include a Pediatric Surgeon who will perform shunting on patients with extrahepatic portal hypertension. Their problem being very common in Armenia is still unsolved. They are dying." (Dr. Ara Babloyan)

In June of 2002 a joint team from AMAA and HTC visited Armenia to make the necessary and final arrangements before the medical volunteer team arrives. Mrs. Mary Jane Hekemian, Co-Chairperson of the AMAA Orphan/Child Care Committee (East Coast) and Mrs. Joan Blanco, Administrative Representative of HTC Midlantic



*Mrs. Joan Blanco (left), Administrative Representative of HTC Midlantic Chapter assisting a medical team of doctors in a surgery.*

Chapter had several meetings with Dr. Ara Babloyan and returned to set the date of October 24, 2002 for the volunteer medical team's visit.

Medical supplies and needed equipment were shipped to Armenia in July. The traveling team will consist of 18-20 people including Board Certified surgeons, anesthesiologists, OR nurses, RR nurses and administrative staff. The team will stay for about 10 days and will perform at least 100 surgeries. The team will not only provide free service, they will also pay for their own travel. AMAA will be responsible for their stay in Armenia.

This unique cooperation and the vital humanitarian service is made possible thanks to the HTC, and its core of health care professionals who volunteer their time and resources, the volunteer members of both HTC and AMAA, and also thanks to the support of caring individuals who give generously to support such humanitarian services.

Both AMAA and HTC will appreciate any kind of support which might help and expand this and similar programs. If you are interested in volunteering your services or would like to make a donation in support of this mission, please send your gifts or write to: **AMAA/HTC Project, c/o 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. G**

*(continued from previous page)*

tional, social and spiritual needs. The camps cannot meet all the needs. Yet, the Biblical teaching accompanied by love and care gives them hope and gradually changes their lives, values and thinking.

In addition, near eight thousand children participated in 70 Day Camps organized throughout Armenia and Karabagh.

AMAA Armenia Summer Camps are organized by Harout Nercessian with the assistance of over 250 staff and volunteers. All AMAA Armenia ministries are led by Rev. René Léonian.

AMAA summer programs brought many blessings to thousands of children. G

## Sydney Church and AMA-Australia Host Nor Yerk

### Rev. L. Nishan Bakalian

In a special outreach event, the Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney, along with the Armenian Missionary Association of Australia, brought the Beirut-based Armenian Christian musical group, *Nor Yerk*, for a whirlwind 12-day tour.

This effort came about as a result of the leadership of the church's pastor, the Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian, and the dedicated work of the one-year-old Australian AMAA affiliate, which distinguished itself in the Sydney Armenian community last year when it sponsored the Australian tour of AMAA-Armenia's "Young Virtuosos" children's ensemble. Then, as now, the proceeds and special gifts resulting from the event were designated for helping the poorest of the poor, namely orphans in Armenia, through the AMAA.

"Nor Yerk," in its tenth year of ministry, carried forth its dual mission: to share the Gospel message in song to Armenians worldwide, and to inspire a love for their ethnic heritage.

The series of concerts began on July 19th with a benefit concert in Willoughby, organized by the local Rotary and AGBU chapters. An appreciative audience composed of Armenians and non-Armenians filled the hall to capacity, and with the Lord's help the group performed a mix of Armenian and English songs without their leader, the Rev. Nerses Balabanian. He joined the group for the subsequent concerts, beginning the following day.

A unique feature of *Nor Yerk*'s July tour to Australia was their leadership in a camp for 9th and 10th graders of the two Sydney-area Armenian high schools.

For the first time ever, the leaders of the two schools, the St. Gregory and Arshag & Sophie Galstaun schools, held a combined annual school retreat, which they traditionally have at the beginning of each academic year.

Along with the active consultation of the heads of the three denominations, Catholic, Apostolic and Evangelical, and the particular input of Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian, this 3-day event saw the seven members of *Nor*

*Yerk* not only giving evening concerts, but also presenting talks on five different subjects.

Their topics, including dealing with peer pressure, relating to parents, the experiences of youth in Karabagh, discerning the messages in popular music, making responsible sexual choices, and understanding the love of Jesus, were warmly received by the group of 80 students and a dozen or so teachers. *Nor Yerk* also led the evening social activities and games, and many of them commented that they had never had such an interesting retreat before. Some of the students even confided, "Don't tell them, but we really like their music!"

Held at a church conference center towards the Blue Mountain region north of Sydney, the conference gave a much-needed challenge and encouragement to youth and adult alike. After this they flew to Melbourne for a Saturday evening concert.

Aside from these activities, Rev. Balabanian, Rev. Nishan Bakalian, and Sevan Balabanian spoke at two Sunday worship services and two women's group meetings during their stay. To cap off all of these events, on their last night in Australia the group played a friendly and informal concert during the AMAA Benefit Concert in North Sydney. A broad spectrum of the Armenian community was present at this and



**Members of Nor Yerk in Sydney, Australia:** Rev. Nishan Bakalian, Hrag Karagozian, Sevan Balabanian, Rev. Nerses Balabanian (leader), Houry Apartian, Garbis Deyirmenjian, Zakar Keshishian (above). Rev. Nishan Bakalian and Sevan Balabanian speak to students about "peers and parents" at a joint Armenian high school retreat outside Sydney.

all the previous events, and expressed their enthusiasm and thanks for the high quality programs of traditional and contemporary music, spiritual and patriotic songs, touching the hearts of listeners of every age. *Nor Yerk*, in turn, expressed its deepest appreciation to all those who worked so hard to bring them from Lebanon for this unique ministry.

Aside from the aforementioned members, the group also includes Houry Apartian, Garbis Deyirmenjian, Hrag Karagozian, and Zakar Keshishian. Except for two of their number, the members are involved in

*(continued on the following page)*

## The Armenian Evangelical Church of São Paulo Celebrates 75 Years of Blessings

by Amestui Darakjian\*

*"Making the most of every opportunity... we wait for the blessed hope-- the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:16/Titus 2:13)*

This was the key verse chosen for the 75th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the Armenian Evangelical Central Church of São Paulo, Brazil.

We praise and thank God for the blessed years, for the toils and victories, for the pastors who carried the work of our Lord, for God's people and for the privilege of this year, when we are able to commemorate the existence of this church for the past 75 years. The above verse reveals the expression of the heart of the author about **making the most of every opportunity**, because as Christ's Church we need to **make the most of every opportunity** and run the race to reach out to the Armenian people, as well as to Brazilian, as we see a society full of challenges.

During the month of August, several special programs were held, and like the psalmist, we can say: "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." (Psalm 126:3). Yes, we were happy for the Word preached by our own, as well as by the invited pastors from abroad, and for the musical programs of various local churches, who enriched our worship services and our praise to God.

The 75th Anniversary Worship Service was held on Sunday morning, August 18, and we praised God for His many blessings.

We specially enjoyed the presence of our dear Louisa Janbazian and her daughter Ani accompanied by Elbiz Baghdikian (the co-

(continued from previous page)

other professions. Joining the group from the U.S. as sound and technical assistants were Vahe Sarmazian and Datev Karjian.

The group has recently released a new recording, its sixth, entitled, "I Will Not Forget My Faith" (*Havadkus chem. Morana*). For more information about the group or its recordings, contact the AMAA office, or visit [www.cacc-sf.org/noryerk G](http://www.cacc-sf.org/noryerk G)



*75th Anniversary Worship Service of the São Paulo Church (above). Some of the members of the Women's Guild with Elbiz Baghdikian and Louisa Janbazian standing on the right and pastor of the Church, Rev. Dimitri Constantinidis standing at the back.*

chair of AMAA's Armenia Summer Camp and Christmas Committee). On Wednesday, August 21, the Women's Guild of our church hosted a special Afternoon Tea for the ladies of the Armenian community of São Paulo. Around 100 ladies were present. Louisa presented a video about the AMAA's mission in Armenia and spoke specially about the work amongst the children of Armenia, after which Mrs. Baghdikian spoke about the activities of the AMAA's Summer Camp and Christmas Committee. At the end of the program, donations were received towards the Christmas Joy Packages for the children of Armenia.

As part of the celebratory programs, a

playground was inaugurated in the patio of our church, at which time our children had a festive afternoon of singing hymns and watching a puppet show.

The 75th Anniversary Commemorative banquet was held on Sunday, August 25, at which time the members and friends of our church had a time of Christian fellowship.

We thank all those who supported and helped us and all the invitees who brought their valued collaboration and participation. May the honor and glory be given to God. G

\*The original of this text was in Portuguese and was translated into English by Louisa Janbazian.

## *Journal of Journey to Beirut*

by Joyce Philibosian Stein

We took this trip primarily for Haigazian Trustee meetings held on June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Of interest to Stephen Philibosian Foundation (SPF) Trustees, we also attended a delightful event, honoring outgoing president, the Rev. Dr. John Khanjian, in the Mugar Gardens on a starry night complete with full moon. Lively testimonies complimented John for seven years of devotion and commitment. Focusing on the major construction during his watch, at evening's end John received a hard hat emblazoned with "John the Builder"!. A three thousand dollar scholarship, bearing Dr. Khanjian's name, will be awarded annually to a deserving student.

Meetings were full of lively discourse on Haigazian's various programs including Dr. Arda Ekmekji's division of Arts and Sciences. Dean Ekmekji was awarded the status of Associate Professor. Dr. Fadi Asrawi, Dean of the Business School has expanded his department offering an M.A. in Business Administration. Reports were given in the key areas. Chaplain Reverend Nishan Bakalian shared the scope of his activities on campus, as did Alan Kairouz on student life at Haigazian. Ailsa McClardy informed us of her role in Life-Long Learning and Adult Education Program. Loucia Isaac, P.R. Director gave an enthusiastic report on her image-building activities.

As always, scholarship funds are critical for needy students. The economy continues to be very poor although tourism is on the upswing, primarily due to Gulf citizens opting for Lebanon instead of Europe in these uncertain days.

A special event took place on June 26<sup>th</sup> again in the beautiful Mugar Gardens. The Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian, the President elect, was honored by the University and the Lebanese community. American, Canadian, Russian and Armenian Embassies were represented as well as Lebanon's ministries, presidential and Prime Minister's deputies. Joe and I enjoyed conversing with the U.S. Director of Culture in Lebanon. Debbie, a Georgetown University graduate was about to leave for a 3-year tour of duty in Bul-

garia, she expressed her reluctance to leave culturally rich Beirut. Paul was eloquent in Arabic, English and Armenian.

Thursday morning found us around the breakfast table with Sona Nashian (former principal of Central High School), Esther Kilaghbian (wife of pastor Soghomon-Ashrafieh Church), Mrs. Ellen Sagherian (Director of C.I./SPF scholarships in Lebanon) and her daughter Pauline (Jinrishian Fund Associate). We spoke of the great needs within the Armenian community. Ellen updated me on our joint mission in Lebanon - providing essential scholarships for children who otherwise would not enjoy an Evangelical education. Our funds do not cover their expenses - therefore some are obligated to attend national sub-standard institutions. Ellen confided some facts about a family assisted in the past; beset with physical, emotional and monetary problems. This is but an example of similar situations in Lebanon.

Thanks to Rev. Megerditch Karagoezian, we toured a number of schools which have been refurbished by the Conte Foundation. Central High School has a fresh look. Gone are the gray walls. New and colorful paints give the interior and facade a fresh look. Principal Sonia Sisslian proudly drew our attention to the fresh library and new common room enclosed on a former balcony. Improvements in the playground are planned for the future. A plaque noting Mr. Philibosian's significant role in restoration some 35 years ago seemed appropriate indeed! Central High School employs 40 teachers for grades K to 12 and 280 students are enrolled.

The Gertmenian School, established by successful Hadjentzis 80 years ago and especially close to the heart of Mr. Philibosian has a bright new façade. Principal Sahag Dedeyan has shepherded the school of 400 for over 30 years. It sits in the heart of Nor Hadjin - an enclave supported by my father



for many years.

Driving through the crowded narrow streets brought us to the Shamlian-Tatigian School whose student body numbers 265 with 31 teachers K to 11. This school was in deplorable condition. Not only freshly painted inside and out, dangerous electrical wiring has been updated and replaced.

The Trad school and Social Service Center boasts 108 students grades K -6. One can see another plaque dedicated to Stephen Philibosian. Principal Vera Svajian is a graduate of Haigazian, as is Rita Lao, director of the Social Service Center. Not only has the building been completely repainted, but a seldom used bath converted into a well-utilized library.

I was told the recent refurbishment has dispelled rumors that Evangelical schools are closing. In fact, it has turned the tide of optimism and more students are enrolling in our schools. Restoration funds have been used at all Evangelical schools including the Philibosian Evangelical College.

Our final evening was spent at the Torossian Evangelical School's graduation, held in the lovely Amanos Church. Pastor Nerves Balabanian offered introductory remarks, while Principal Seta Karagoezian's message to the 40 graduates reflected on memories of the past year, encouraging each to hold fast to high ideals. Keynote speaker was from Antelias Holy See. He spoke of Evangelical impact on him spiritually. As a young orphan, "I was given the cold cup of water" by the Evangelicals. His was an inspiring message.

Joe and I felt this trip was indeed a very rewarding and enlightening one. We will always have a heart for Lebanon. G

## *AMAA's Child Sponsorship Program in the Middle East*

Below are two testimonies from past beneficiaries of the AMAA's Child Sponsorship Program in the Middle East, who are now active leaders in their own communities. Since 1946 the AMAA, through its Child Sponsorship Program, has reached out to thousands of Armenians in that region. The Child Sponsorship Program is geared to helping children of needy families to acquire an education in a Christian environment. Currently it reaches out to 800 children annually in 13 schools. Today, this program is more important than ever, as living costs have risen with inflation and unemployment has thrown most of the families into poverty. For more information or to become a sponsor to help an Armenian child in the Middle East get a proper education, please fill out the form below.

**Name:** Father Mashdots Chobanian

**Position:** Vice Director of Christian Education at the Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia

**Ministry:** Celibate Priest

**School where scholarship was granted:** Armenian Evangelical Torosian School

*"If anyone gives a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, he will certainly not lose his reward." (Matt. 10.42)*

*For the "cup of cold water" I thank all my sponsors who supported me financially and morally during the 13 years which I spent at the Arm. Evang. Torosian School. During those years I received and enjoyed all the spiritual, mental and physical blessings the school offered. With its warm environment, my school became my second home, the teachers became my mental and spiritual parents, the students became my sisters and brothers, and the sponsors became God's providing hand.*

*How can I not offer praise to God for all these? How can I not express my gratitude and thankfulness for these God-pleasing acts? How can I not pray for all those who wanted to share their piece of bread and glass of water with others?*

*They did all this with the deep faith and conviction anchored on the words of the Gospel: "When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" (Matt. 6.3)*

*Lastly, I pray to God for all the sponsors, asking Him to enrich their lives with His unending grace and teach us.*

*To see and use all opportunities,  
Give without expecting in return,  
Struggle without being hurt,  
Work without seeking rest,  
Serve without expecting reward,  
Knowing that it is God's will  
which we are doing.  
Amen." (St. Parsegh Gesaratsi)*



**Name:** Kathia Kozman

**Position:** Registered Nurse, Nursing Instructor, American University of Beirut, Medical Center

**Ministry:** Leader of Junior Youth; Member of CE Youth Group at the Emmanuel Church

**School where scholarship was granted:** Armenian Evangelical Torosian School

*I wasn't born a believer, or a junior youth group leader, or a youth group member, not even a competent registered nurse, university students' instructor, or a NEST student. It all had a different beginning. My half-Armenian father had to earn money enough to get his 4 children into school during the troublesome years of war in Lebanon. That wouldn't have been possible if it were not for the help of the dedicated sponsors of the AMAA.*

*Where could be the connection, you would ask? Look down.*

*I was able to finish school, get to university, get to where I am now. I was also blessed to be able to meet Jesus through my school's youth programs and make a commitment to live my life for God. And I'm able to say thank you to the right people, hopefully at the right time.*

*G Yes, I would like to become a sponsor of a child in the Middle East. Please sign me up as a sponsor of \_\_\_\_\_ child(ren) at \$200.00 per child, per year.*

*G I am enclosing a one-time gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help the AMAA provide necessary assistance to the education of a needy child in the Middle East.*

*G Please send me more information about this Program.*

*Name: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_*

*(Make your tax-deductible check payable to AMAA, and mail to: 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652*

## Haigazian University Commencement 2002

### Loucia Seropian

Seventy-four students donned their caps and gowns to officially and formally mark their graduation from Haigazian University on Monday, July 2, 2002.

Over 1000 parents including faculty, friends and scholars attended the open-sky ceremony, which was held at the First Armenian Evangelical Church grounds.

The ceremony was under the patronage of the Lebanese Cultural Minister Ghassan Salameh. In his speech, Salameh encouraged the graduates to seek more than individual success. He said they should "pay back the nation that embraced them, stand up to the seductions of emigration and work on developing society."

After the invocation, Haigazian University President, the Rev. Dr. John Khanjian, welcomed and honored the graduates' parents for succeeding in leading their children to this stage of their academic life, asking them to stand up for the applause of those present, in appreciation of their immense efforts.

Taking the podium was the keynote speaker Haigazian Board member, Rev. Dr. Carnegie S. Calian. He remarked that, "in today's world, no one seems to know how to connect meaningfully, let alone put together peace plans and stop bloodshed", he added. Rev. Dr. Calian told the graduates that despite this, they need to forge on and reject "doing business as usual." He also said, "they would constantly encounter negative roadblocks, and asked the graduates to not only take money into consideration, but take into account their social and national obligations as well. And that they should continue to excel in their work and personal lives by using "uncommon sense". "From Common Sense To Uncommon Sense" was the theme of the speech.

Also, during the ceremony and in regard to Dr. John Khanjian's long record of achievements as the President of Haigazian, the Haigazian Board of Trustees recognized his efforts and in appreciation he was granted an honorary Doctorate in Humanities. The ceremony also included two speeches by the class 2002 valedictorians, Zela



*The Rev. Dr. Khanjian receiving his honorary Doctorate in Humanities from The Rev. Robert Sarkissian, Chairman of The Haigazian Board (above). The Rev. Dr. Carnegie S. Calian, the keynote speaker, addressing the graduates and the audience at the graduation ceremony.*

Margossian (in English), Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Alexan Hagopian (in Arabic) from the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics.

Both valedictorians encouraged graduates to pursue more than money as they left the academic world at Haigazian, keeping faith

in their abilities and those of their nation, holding closely to the academic virtues, responsibilities and ethics the University has taught them at Haigazian.

The next day following the Commencement a number of the graduates came to the University to return their caps and gowns.G

## A Bestowal of Honor and Award

Confirming the Rev. Dr. John Khanjian's contribution to Lebanon's trademark of excellence of education, the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East awarded Dr. Khanjian with a warm reception held at the Mugar Garden on July 24, 2002, to honor him with Lebanese Presidential ranking.

Following the Lebanese national anthem there was a word of welcome by the Chairman of the Board, Rev. Robert Sarkessian, a short introduction of the event, a bestowal of honor and award to Dr. John Khanjian.

Taking the platform was Rev. Megerditch Karagoezian, President of the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East, who in his speech distinguished Dr.

Khanjian's highly renowned achievements and rewarded him with the Union's Silver medal, a tribute to his contribution to the Church.

Representing the President of the Lebanese Republic was Youth and Sports Minister Mr. Sebouh Hovnanian who, upon the appointment of the Lebanese President Emile Lahoud, conferred Dr. Khanjian the rank of Knight a contribution to higher education and academic endeavors among the youth in Lebanon.

With hearts full of thanks and appreciation Dr. Khanjian expressed words of gratitude to those who have recognized his accomplishments in the name of truth, free-



dom and service to Haigazian University, a unique institution which has served the community in Lebanon for 48 years.

Present were, the Rev. Salim Sayhouni, President of the Supreme Evangelical Council in Syria and Lebanon, Armenian Orthodox Archbishop Kegham Khatcherian, Armenian Ambassador, Mr. Arek Hovanessian, and other religious figures representing the Armenian Evangelical community, Haigazian faculty, staff, students and friends. G

## Haigazian Board of Trustees Welcomes the Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian

Haigazian University's Board of Trustees held a cocktail reception on Wednesday, June 26, 2002 at the Mugar campus garden to welcome Haigazian's new President, the Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian.

The Rev. Dr. Khanjian and the Deans at Haigazian University were first to greet and receive the invitees directing them to meet and congratulate the new President elect and the Board of Trustees.

After the Lebanese National Anthem, Dr. Fadi Asraoui, Dean of Business Administration and Economics at Haigazian University, opened the ceremony by words of welcome and attribution to Haigazian's milestones and its contribution to the academic sector in Lebanon.

Following his words, was the speech of the Board President, Mr. Herair Mouradian lauding Dr. Haidostian for his academic knowledge and commitment to the values of Haigazian University. In his speech Mr. Mouradian highlighted Dr. Haidostian's credentials, saying: Dr. Haidostian is a graduate of Haigazian University, formerly Haigazian College, he holds a Masters Degree in Divinity from the Near East School of Theology, Lebanon, and a Doctorate Degree in Pastoral Theology from Princeton University, New Jersey.



*(l to r) The Rev. Megerditch and Mrs. Seta Karagoezian, the Rev. Dr. Paul and Mrs. Maral Haidostian, Mr. Herair and Mrs. Sirvart Mouradian, the Rev. Robert and Mrs. Terez Sarkessian.*

Today, Dr. Haidostian plays a role in local and worldwide academic and ecumenical organizations. He is a Faculty member and a lecturer in Applied and Practical Theology at NEST and ranks several positions in the Armenian Evangelical Institutions in the Near East.

In attendance were representatives from Schools, Universities, and spiritual figures and leaders from all religious sects in Lebanon, both Christian and Muslim, Sports and

Youth Minister Sebouh Hovnanian, representing President Emile Lahoud, as well as Southern Lebanon Parliament Member Yassin Jaber, representing Speaker Nabih Berri; and Beirut Armenian Parliament Member Hagop Kassarjian, representing Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

Many invitees signed the guest book marking the occasion with words of welcome and support dedicated to the new President, Dr. Paul Haidostian. G

## ***AMAA Grants \$335,000 in Scholarship Aid***

Mr. Robert Hekemian, Jr., of Saddle River, NJ, reported that the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) has awarded a total of \$135,000 in direct scholarship aid to 75 Armenian college and university students for the academic year 2002-2003. In addition, \$200,000 was provided to various institutions of higher learning and charitable organizations for distribution as scholarship grants to needy and qualified Armenian university students.

Mr. Hekemian is the chairman of the AMAA Scholarship Committee, which allocates the awarding of the Association's scholarships in the form of grants to deserving students. Each applicant's documents are reviewed thoroughly by the eight-member committee, taking into account such factors as academic performance, financial need, character references and leadership potential. For the 2002-2003 academic year, the Committee reviewed a total of 106 applications.

Application for academic grants is open to all undergraduate students of Armenian extraction attending an accredited college or university on a full-time basis. Application forms are available each year beginning in January, upon a written request by the applicant. The deadline for requesting Scholarship Application forms is April 15 and the closing date for applications is May 15 of each year. Once the applications are received, they are processed by the AMAA staff and given

to the Scholarship Committee. After reviewing and discussing each application in detail, the Scholarship Committee considers, in light of how much scholarship money is available, which applicants merit financial aid and how much that aid should be.

Since its formation in the mid-1970's, the AMAA's Scholarship Program has provided over 2.8 million dollars in the form of grants and loans to more than 3,500 students in the United States and Canada. The program was formalized under the leadership of the late Dr. John Keuhnlian, who for many years faithfully served as the chairman of the Scholarship Committee. The baton was then passed on to Mr. Robert Hekemian, Sr., under whose chairmanship, the program grew in proportion to the income from the designated endowment funds.

Upon Mr. Hekemian's retirement from the Committee, his son, Mr. Robert Hekemian, Jr. was appointed by the AMAA Board to chair the Committee. Mr. Robert Hekemian, Sr., who was a long-time member of the Committee, continues to serve this program with enthusiasm and dedication.

Funds for the AMAA's College Scholarship Program is provided from the income of endowment funds established by individuals and families concerned about the education of Armenian youth. There are currently about 70 such AMAA endowment funds, the major ones being the Hekemian Family Trust and the Stephen Philibosian Fund.

Other AMAA funds whose income provided scholarships for this year's recipients are: John & Sona Abajian, John & Mary Abrahamian, Rev. Hovhannes Agnerian, Haigazoun & Angel Andonian, Dr. Robert Nerses Armen, Aynilian Family, Vahan & Grace Azadian, Rev. Antranig Bedikian, Tavit & Sirvart Bogosian, Rev. Dr. Giragos & Yeprouhie Choupourian, Giragos M. & Helen T. Churukian, Arthur Dadian, Drs. Nazareth & Ani Darakjian, Dr. Haig Robert Darpinian & Berjouhie Timourian, Hagop & Esther Dohanian Family, Armine Ejdaharian/Bilezikjian, Dr. Meguerditch Ejdaharian, Rev. S.K. & G.T. Emurian, Ani Etoyan, Flora & Diane Galoostian, Charles Mesrob Garabedian, Leon & Matilda Giridlian, Louise Googooian, Anne (Googooian) Halford, Angele Bedrossian Hancock, Khacher & Puzant Guzelimian, Martin Hatch Jr., Dr. Michael S. Hovenanian, Peter & Sara Hovenanian, Paul & Arousiag Iskiyan, Martha D. Jedidian, George & Elizabeth Jerjisian, Karen Kaboulian, Ohannes & Araxie Karamanoukian, Alice Odian Kasparian, Kevork H. and Sirvart Kassouny Kavouksorian, John G. Kazanjian, Moses Keshishian & Victoria Hadidian, Dr. John Keuhnlian, Lucy Kezlarian/Philipian, Rev. & Mrs. Dikran & Yester Koundakjian & Haroutune & Salihe Berejiklian, Araxie Kouyoumdjian Poladian, Hrant, Dolores and Roseanne Krikorian, Serje & Ann Krikorian, Prof. Lootfi Levonian, Yervant & Virginia Levonian, Samuel & Victoria Magzhanian, Rahel & Osanna Makanian, Edward & Helen Mardigian, Albert, Henry & James Mouradian, Leon Mouradian, Murad & Yevkin Muradian, Raymond & Marie Nahigian, George & Alice Philibosian, Altoon & Sarah Saprichian, Dickran & Flora Sarkisian, Krikor & Anna Sermabeikian, Berjouhi Sherene, Diran Simpadian, Edward & Hovnan Tashian, Telfeyan Evangelical Fund, Ezra & Nellie Tellalian, Dr. Jirayr & Louise Tezel, Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian, and several small funds with incomes less than \$250.

Many former scholarship recipients now support this program by establishing endowment funds of their own or making donations to this program.

The needs remain great. We urge our members and friends to remember this program and contribute to it. If you want to help, please fill out the coupon of contribution. G

*Yes, I will support AMAA's Scholarship Program.*

*G I will establish an Endowment Fund. Please send me details.*

*G I will contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to this program.*

*Name \_\_\_\_\_*

*Address \_\_\_\_\_*

*(Please make your tax deductible checks payable to the AMAA Scholarship Program and mail to 31 W. Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652)*

## *A Wholesome and Pleasant Surprise After More Than a Quarter Century*

by Rev. Dr. Giragos Chopourian

After eighteen years of service to the AMAA and fifteen years of retirement, for a total of 33 years, I received a letter on June 17, 2002 loaded with oodles of inspiring surprises.

The letter reached me at a time when I was having second thoughts about the AMAA Scholarship Program that the Board instituted early in 1972. I did not verbalize or write about my concern to the Board. It was rather a "retirement contemplation" when there is much time to dream. My concern was stimulated by my remembrance of a letter that reached the Board years back when the writer said, "What business does the Board have in providing scholarships?" At the time I was convinced it was the business of the AMAA to help educate Armenian youth because it is the best capital for youth to have, especially those who were mostly emigrants or children of emigrants. On top of that I learned that the student loans the Association had granted were not all being returned. These second thoughts were repelled because of the June 17 letter from Dr. Vahe Apelian.

"This may come as a surprise," wrote Vahe Apelian. "A few days ago I was going over some family records when I came across two letters I had kept all these years. One of them is a letter you wrote to Marie in 1977 congratulating her on her graduation from Concordia College with a BA in History. The other is signed by the late Dr. Keuhnlian.... who also would have been pleased to know that AMAA's financial assistance was put to good use."

I am tempted to quote those letters to make the point that AMAA's small contribution has gone a long, long way:

"Dear Marie: Mrs. Chopourian and I read with pleasure and pride the June/July/August issue of **The Herald**. It is our privilege and joy to congratulate you on your graduation from Concordia College with a B.A. in History. We also wish to extend our very best wishes on your marriage to Vahe on June 4<sup>th</sup>. We add our genuine prayers for the fulfillment of your "dreams" and future plans. Commit yourself unto the Lord and He will

direct your path." (June 24, 1977)

"Dear Miss Hosepian: The Scholarship Committee of the Armenian Missionary Association of America has carefully reviewed your request for financial assistance towards your academic training. The Committee felt it could tender you assistance in the manner stated at the foot of this letter (The amount was \$250 in value). We wish you well in your studies and look forward to the time

**when you too will find happiness in helping others.**" (Emphasis mine) Signed: John G Keuhnlian, M.D., Chairman, Scholarship Committee." (March 1, 1976)

I had a brief twinge of 'shame' on reading that the financial assistance was a very meager amount. But on reflection that the contribution was made twenty-six years ago, I realized that had the money been invested, it would have grown at least four times.

Marie Hosepian, now Mrs. Apelian, and husband Vahe, celebrated their twenty fifth anniversary of their wedding. Their two sons, Daniel and David, are moving in the same academic direction as their parents have done. David is a third year Pharmacy student and Daniel has finished his second high school year.

But the AMAA scholarship recipient has done amazingly well. To her Concordia College degree she has added a BS and Master degrees in Adult Nurse Practitioner program from the NJ College of Medicine and Dentistry; has passed her certifications; taught at Wright University School of Nursing in Dayton, Ohio; and now works as part of the outpatient clinic staff at the Veterans



*Marie and Vahé Apelian with their two sons, Daniel (standing) and David, and Marie's mother, Mrs. Alice Hosepian.*

Administrative Hospital. On top of all that, she did the ultimate. In gratefulness to her adopted country, she joined the reservist corps as First Lieutenant. In recognition of her hard work, she was commissioned as Captain and then as Major. I can visualize how proud the Apelian family must have been when sons Daniel and David pinned the well-deserved insignias for Major on her. I would have loved to be there!

I believe it was important to tell this story of a family who were appreciative of the small favor rendered to Marie. They have also stood by the AMAA as members and have established an endowment fund in honor of Vahe's mother, Zevart Apelian, who has retired after 45 years of uninterrupted teaching.

My reservations on the Scholarship Program of the AMAA have been 'buried.' I was reminded of the ten lepers Jesus healed and only one returned. And I became more convinced that even one out of ten or even one out of a hundred loyal recipients makes a difference. And who knows how many more Maries there may be that we don't know about! G

## New Publication - "Rev. Movses B. Janbazian - Man Of Vision With A Mission"

Reviewed by Robert Hekemian, Jr.

I recall a late afternoon at the AMAA headquarters in August of 2000 when Reverend Movses asked me into his office to chat for a "short while." A few hours later our discussion, which included the AMAA, the Middle East and Armenia, drew to a close with few conclusions and many questions. As always, a "chat" with Reverend Movses was stimulating and thought provoking.

*Please permit me, henceforth, to refer to the Reverend as I often did...Movses.*

During our conversation Movses read a letter of encouragement he had written to a young Evangelical Minister. I commented that his writings should be memorialized in an inspirational volume. *"Perhaps one day..."* he said, and shortly thereafter we walked to my car. A spectacular sunset, taking its place in the western sky, cast a red and orange glow on the two of us. We could not help but admire its incredible beauty. *"Go in peace, brother Robert,"* he said. At that moment, I wanted to share the admiration this wonderful person had inspired me to feel. Unable to articulate the profound effect, I kept these feelings within. On that beautiful summer evening, we parted for the last time.

Months after his passing, while pondering our brief discussion about preserving his writings, I came to a conclusion: *"perhaps one day,"* in all probability, would never occur, and it may never have without the persistent efforts of Movses' devoted wife, Louisa.

About a year ago Louisa asked me what I thought about assembling some of Movses' writings into a book. Needless to say, I was elated with her idea and encouraged her to move ahead. Her dedication, commitment and love for her husband have resulted in this very special edition.

These writings are Movses' thoughts on real life, formulated on the basis, and in the context, of Christianity. Christmas and Easter are expressed, not as the familiar stories we all know, but rather as messages that touch our lives as Christians. He lived according to what he preached and what he wrote, always showing us how to love and be compassionate.

Many people have told me stories of events in their lives which were influenced by Movses. Some were significant. Relief programs reaching out to thousands of people, building churches and schools, and spreading of the Gospel through education of children are but a few. It is the smaller stories I have been told so often that bring to light the essence of this great Christian man. One such tale tells of a day in which Movses visited a group of volunteers in a warehouse, packing boxes of clothes, food and water for the children who fell victim to the Armenian Earthquake. Upon entering the room, Movses said little and walked around quietly. After some time of silence, he spoke these words twice, proclaiming softly, *"Pack the boxes with love."* Those simple words carried the volunteers through their mission.

Another story tells of Movses during a visit at a home for the elderly in Beirut, Lebanon. Observing a group of women filled with pain, despair and loneliness, he opened his arms and gathered them in an embrace. As one witness observed, they smiled and cried as he called each one *"Mayrig"* (Mother). In that moment, the pain, anguish and suffering seemed to disappear as if they had been uplifted by the Holy Spirit. My mother, who witnessed this, told me it was one of the most moving experiences in her life.

When in Movses' presence we were with someone very special; we are privileged to have spent cherished moments with him. During important discussions he might take us by the arm or place his hand on our shoulders as if to reach out and guide us. His advice was always to our benefit. Indeed, we miss his wisdom, guidance and counsel. He touched our hearts and helped shape many of our lives. Movses reached out to us. He showed us God's way through his life and his obedience to the Heavenly Vision.

There is no doubt that Movses' writings exemplify who he was, his beliefs and what he still represents. We are privileged to have this important collection from this very special man: a lasting memory that helps guide us in our quest to understand our place with God. In a speech entitled *"Being Obedient to the Heavenly Vision"*, Movses explains

that, *"Heavenly Visions are like the Hand of God. They last as long as the heavens."* He states that God's message to the Apostle Paul was *"...simple and clear..."*:

*Repent and turn from your sinful ways. Come to God by accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and live a life and perform the kind of deeds that will show you are a Christian.*

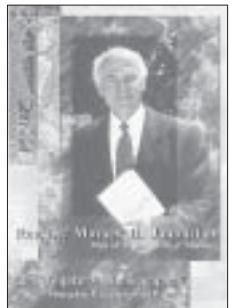
Movses refers to a passage from Proverbs, *"Where there is no vision the people perish"* (29:18). From this he asks *"Do we have any vision for our families, churches and nation?"* Movses concludes that the answer is one of divine promise.

Many people have raised the question: What would Movses have said about the events of September 11, 2001? I don't possess the qualifications which would permit me to speak for him; however, I believe in his speech entitled *"The Glorious Power Within Us,"* Movses provides us with an accurate assessment of how he would have viewed such an event. Movses quotes the Apostle Paul:

*"We are pressed on every side by troubles but not crushed and broken. We are perplexed because we do not know why things happen as they do, but we do not give up and quit. We are hunted down but God never abandons us. We get knocked down, but we get up again and keep going."* (2 Corinthians. 4:8-10, 14).

Movses concludes, *"And as long as we live in Jesus and walk with Him closely, the same God who raised Him from the dead will empower us to triumph over all the evil forces that cause us despair in the course of our strivings for peace and justice."* Once again Movses reminds us that we are able to find peace through the Heavenly Vision, even during events such as this. As long as we live through an acceptance of Jesus Christ, no evil is powerful enough to separate us from the love of God.

Movses loved Armenia and Armenians.  
*(continued on the following page)*



## *Rev. Dr. Tootikian's Commendable Book On Armenian Christendom*

**Reviewed by Dr. Robert Kachadourian**

The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian's latest (24<sup>th</sup>) book entitled *Highlights of Armenian Christendom* is one of the most exhaustive studies that I have ever read on this subject.

The book consists of 27 chapters and 470 pages, and is published by the Armenian Evangelical World Council and the Armenian Heritage Committee.

This example of scholarship that covers the first century to the present exemplifies research at its best. Beyond this, it employs the most important aspect of scholarship, which is objectivity.

Dr. Tootikian's text provides us with a breath of fresh air. Above this, it gives us perspective as we examine our religious experiences in our 1700 plus years with our Lord as a People.

Among the examples of this monumental work's contribution to Armenian Christianity is the reference to the beginnings of the Armenian people in receiving the Gospel and actively promulgating the "good news".

Indeed, two of Christ's own Apostles, Taddeus and Bartholomew, were responsible for bringing the message of our Lord to the Armenian nation.

Much care is taken by the author to establish and authenticate the role of these apostles and early church fathers. The list-

ing of the patriarchs is especially helpful to give a background for the introductory render to the subject.

As the writer weaves the study of the events of Armenia's conversion to Christianity in 301 A. D., the armed struggle against the Persians for religious liberty from 451-484, the difficulties with the Byzantine Church, Arab conquerors, Seljuk Turks, Mongols in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and ultimately the Ottoman invasions culminating with the conquering of Constantinople (Istanbul) in 1453, we are kept abreast by not only historical facts but the whole story itself.

From the *Highlights of Armenian Christendom*, we cannot only glean an understanding of who we were and are but are offered an insight as to who we could possibly become, as one reads more of this scholarly work; it gives the reader the feeling that one is a participant in this living history. Often the story is woven with the revealing motives of those who have led us now for over seventeen centuries.

As we move from 1453-1915 the stage is set for the most significant and tragic event of modern Armenian history. The genocide of this race by Ottoman Turkey is documented by the role of the church.

One objective, indeed, perhaps the most

important one of *the Highlights of Armenian Christendom* is to inform others in Christendom not only of our highlights, but of our story in general. We must reach out to others wherever and whenever possible. This text affords us that opportunity like no other work thus far.

Finally, *The Highlights of Armenian Christendom*, by Dr. Tootikian, gives us something more important than many published items give us. That is it allows us the opportunity to have honest dialog among ourselves about our past with hope for the future.

A breath of fresh air? Yes, *The Highlights of Armenian Christendom* is that and much more. It is an honest examination of Armenian Christianity with truth as its foundation.

Any reader would welcome that. This reader did and looks forward to even more from the author. I recommend this book that tells it like it is, in a readable and scholarly approach. That is a rare and welcome combination.

The book may be ordered through: **Armenian Heritage Committee**, P.O. Box 531, Southfield, MI 48037. The Price: \$35.00 Postage and handling \$3.00. G



*(continued from previous page)*

When he talked of the "Armenian homeland," his enthusiasm was boundless and his love for her suffering people unequaled. A great deal of his time was spent cultivating Christianity in Armenia, and he enjoyed this immensely. Despite Armenia's tremendous needs, Movses also recognized that as Christians we have an obligation which extends far beyond this small country. Movses clearly states in his visionary essay entitled "*Beyond the 80th Anniversary Milestone*", that God's "redeeming work" must be aimed at the "entire creation." Incredibly, Movses references his beloved AMAA in this context and points out, "...the AMAA can exist and serve as a Christian missionary agency when its programs reach out not only to Armenians but also to all peoples." Movses

emphasizes that it is "...high time for the AMAA to come out of its traditional Armenian Parochialism, and develop and support such projects that serve non-Armenians as well." Once again Movses demonstrates, by example, his faithfulness to the Heavenly Vision which demands that we, as Christians, follow Jesus' words "Go ye to the uttermost parts of the world and preach the Gospel to every creation." (These sentiments are further echoed in Movses' sermon on missions entitled "*Missions: Our Reason For Being.*")

Movses still has his hands on our shoulders and is pointing the way. When reviewing the sermons one can almost hear his voice echoing the words. I encourage you to enjoy these beautiful writings, not all at once, but one or two at a time. Although

Movses' messages are simple and pure; each imparts a message of significance.

Movses, in life and now through his writings, calls us to a challenge, leading us in a charge to become a part of that Heavenly Vision. Will we rise to embrace that challenge? He has shown us how this will invariably change our lives. In life he inspired us to do more. He encouraged us to look inward by asking ourselves what could we do as Christians to make a difference for others, to reach out to others, to give to others. Movses was a teacher, indeed, who taught us by the way he lived his life. His shining example followed the footsteps of the greatest Teacher.

These writings are a true testament to Movses' life and the wonderful friend I will always remember.G

## PUBLICATIONS

# AMAA BOOK SERVICE PROGRAM (DISCOUNTED PRICES)

ARMENIA - PORTRAITS OF SURVIVAL - Photographs by Jerry Berndt - Introduction by Donald E. Miller, (An album of photographs) pb. No. 240 ..... \$10.00  
ARMENIAN CHRISTIANITY, by Aharon Sapsezian, The Faith of a Nation.143 pp., pb, No. 252 ..... \$10.00  
ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH 2000 – Compiled and Edited by Rev. Movses B. Janbazian, An album illustrating and describing each organized Armenian Evangelical Church in the Armenian Evangelical world family in 18 countries (over 300 pictures). It also includes a directory of Armenian Evangelical ministers worldwide. 125 pp., hc, No. 292..... \$20.00  
ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL REFORMATION - by G. H. Chopourian, hc. No. 050 ..... \$5.75  
ARMENIAN NEEDLELACE AND EMBROIDERY, by Alice Odian Kasparian, A photographic collection of more than 100 priceless specimens, plus step-by-step instructions for making two dozen easy needlelace patterns and diagrams for sophisticated Marash embroidery, 127 pp, hc. No. 120 ..... \$12.00  
THE BENEFITS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH TO THE ARMENIAN NATIONS - On the 1700th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Christianity as Armenia's State Religion (In English and in Armenian) - by Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, 190 pp., hc. No. 295 ..... \$15.00

THE CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROTESTANTISM TO THE ARMENIAN NATION AND NOTABLE ARMENIAN WOMEN OF HISTORY - by Yeghia S. Kassouny, 61 pp, pb. No. 175 .... \$3.00  
THE GOLDEN AGE IN THE FIFTH CENTURY, by Rev. A.A. Bedikian, 128 pp, pb. No. 8 ..... \$2.00  
INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT (in Armenian), by Jerair Bizdikian, 347 pp., pb, No. 272 ..... \$10.00  
KARA KRIKOR HAROUTUNIAN OR A GUILELESS LIFE - by B.B. Ajemian, 58 pp., pb. No. 174 ..... \$3.00  
MUSA DAGH, by Rev. Dikran Antreasian, Escape of Musa Dagh or the banishment of Zeitoun and Suedia's revolt. 74 pp., pb. No. 234 ..... \$7.00  
OUR ARMENIAN CHRISTIAN HERITAGE - by G. H. Chopourian, pb. No. 050a ..... \$3.00  
YOLJULUK - by W. N. Chambers, 125 pp, pb. No. 182 . \$5.00

## ARMENIAN BIBLES

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT (hc - extra large) No. 13k ..... \$15.00  
THE 1700TH ANNIVERSARY ARMENIAN REFERENCE BIBLE (hc green - extra large) No. 13n ..... \$20.00  
SERPAZAN BADMUTIUN, (Children's Bible) No. 155b ..... \$10.00  
ARMENIAN NEW TESTAMENT ON TAPES (The Four Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) - No. 195 ..... \$20.00

## TAPES & CDs

AMAA'S "YOUNG VIRTUOSOS" OF ARMENIA - North American Concert Tour 2000 (CD), Musical Ensemble of 6 talented children - ages 9-14 (violins, cello, flute & Piano) - Armenian and international classical music, No. 293 ..... \$10.00  
BACK TO ARMENIA - Samuel Yervinian (violin) and Armen Aharonian (Piano), (CD), No. 298 ..... \$15.00  
GARODK - Stepan Sarafian (Violin) and Armen Aharonian (Piano), (CD), No. 299 ..... \$15.00  
NAYINK HISOUSI # 1 & 2, and Hayrenapaghts - by Rev. Barkev Apartian, No. 211 (\$10 each if sold separately)1 Set of 3 tapes ..... \$25.00  
NOR YERK - TZENDZATZEK DEROTCHMOV (Rejoice in the Lord) #3 (CD). No. 208d, ..... \$12.00  
NOR YERK - TARTZIR AZKES HAY (Return to me my Armenian People) #4 (CD). No. 208f, ..... \$12.00  
NOR YERK YERKETZEK DEROTCH (2 CDs) Nos. 208bl, 208cl, each CD ..... \$12.00  
NOR YERK YERKETZEK DEROTCH (6 Tapes) Nos. 208b, 208c, 208g, 208e, 208h, 208i, each tape ..... \$8.00  
SERPAZAN YERGER - Sacred Music Chorale (tape) Conducted by Dr. John Merjanian. No.193 ..... \$8.00  
YEREVAN WOMEN'S CHOIR OF ARMENIA, (CD) No. 207a... \$15.00

## BOOK ORDER FORM

Please forward Book(s) {List by catalogue No.(s)}  
\_\_\_\_\_ for a  
total of \$\_\_\_\_\_ plus \$\_\_\_\_\_ for post-  
age and handing. In the U.S. add \$4.00 for first copy  
and \$2.00 for each additional book. In Canada add  
US\$6.00 for first copy and add \$3.00 for each additional  
book (order books by catalogue numbers).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to AMAA - Canada: Payable in U.S.  
dollars - Prices subject to change)

## *Armenia Summer Camp and Christmas Committee's Spring Benefit Recital a Huge Success*

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) Summer Camp/Christmas Committee's gala Benefit Recital, featuring the gifted young violist from Armenia, Gor Hovhannisyan, and the world-renowned pianist, Gary Kirkpatrick, took place on Sunday, May 5, 2002 at 4:00 PM at the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, New Jersey, at 140 Forest Avenue,

Mrs. Lucy Janjigian, Committee Chairperson, spoke eloquently of the ardent task undertaken by the Summer Camp/Christmas Committee of the AMAA in their quest to provide assistance to many children of Armenia and Karabagh. Rev. Robert Swanson, interim minister of the church, offered an opening prayer. AMAA President, Andrew Torigian expressed his gratitude to the committee members, as well as to the sponsors and the guests who came to support the Recital. Mrs. Ani Chalemian, Recital chairperson, introduced the artists.

Gor Hovhannisyan, was born in Yerevan in 1975. His early studies began in Moscow and Yerevan. His talents were soon discovered when he won many regional competitions. This led to studies at the well-known Komitas Conservatory in Yerevan. His teachers there included Suren Hachnazarian and Aleksander Kosemian, both members of the Komitas String Quartet. During summers he played at music festivals in Germany and at the Carl Flesch Academy in Baden-Baden. He also had the opportunity to study with the world-renowned violist, Kim Kashkashian and W. Strehle in Berlin.

In 1998 he began studies at the Hochschule fur Music Hanns Eisler in Berlin with the well-known violist, Carol Rodland. There he participated in chamber music festivals as a member of the Armenian Quartet. He also had opportunities to perform with orchestra, make recordings for Bavarian radio, NDR, ZDF, and Deutschland Radio. He also performed as solo violist with the RIAS Jugendorchester.

Currently the young violist is studying with Professor Carol Rodland at Arizona State University, working towards a Ph.D. in music performance.

The internationally acclaimed pianist, Gary Kirkpatrick, partnered with Mr. Hovhannisyan for this recital. Mr. Kirkpatrick is recognized throughout the world as one of America's foremost soloists, chamber musicians, and teachers. Originally from Kansas, he graduated with high honors from the Eastman School of Music and the Academy of Music in Vienna. After claiming top prizes at piano competitions in Vienna and Spain, he made his New York debut at Carnegie Recital Hall to high critical acclaim. The New York Times praised his "high caliber performance and musicianship."

As pianist with the renowned Verdehr Trio he has recorded ten albums. Mr. Kirkpatrick has been invited as guest artist and teacher



at many of the world's leading conservatories. He has been on the faculty of the University of Kansas, and is currently Professor of Piano at the William Paterson University of New Jersey. His recent tours included concerts and master classes in Estonia, Austria, Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Japan and the United States. This season marks his debut as pianist with the newly formed Halcyon Trio with whom he will tour the United States and Europe.

The Recital Program included selections from Darius, Milhaud, Johannes Brahms, Max Reger, Franz Schubert, E. Bagdassarian and Komitas. A standing ovation completed their performance with the selection of "Groong."

After acknowledgements by Mrs. Janjigian a reception followed, at which time guests were able to meet the artists and enjoy the sumptuous buffet.

Over \$20,000 was raised at this fundraiser to benefit Summer Camps in Armenia.G

## Armenian Evangelical Churches of Canada Conference At Kingston

This year's Armenian Evangelical Church conference was held on Saturday, August 3. The venue was the Edith Rankin United Church situated on the shoreline of Lake Ontario, on Collins Bay. This area is well known for its correctional institutions. Praise God, we worship Him who sets the prisoner free! A total of some 95 church members from Montreal, Cambridge and Toronto were able to attend.

The morning program, ably led by pastors Mher Katchigian (Montreal), Hovhannes Sarmazian (Cambridge), and Yessayi Sarmazian (Toronto), centered on the current form of the Sunday Service. The main points brought forward by the speakers were that the Service should always revolve around the reading and preaching of the word of God. Praising the Lord is another very important element in the Service. Since we believers have received such a wonderful salvation, and the gift of eternal life through the finished work of Christ on the Cross, it is both our duty and our joy to praise Him.

An open discussion followed the morning program. It was suggested that the responsive reading could be led by a lay person, to involve more people in public worship. Some members thought that it would be a good thing to learn some new hymns, perhaps one a month. For this purpose, a time could be set, say ten minutes before the start of Sunday worship, for the learning and practice of new hymns under the direction of someone with musical expertise.

At lunch time, the Church members moved downstairs to the church hall where they were served lahmajoon, hommos, babaghanouj and salad. After lunch, there was a two-hour break, during which some people went to stroll around Kingston, while others sat, enjoying Christian fellowship under the cool shade of the trees on the shoreline of the lake.

During the afternoon session, in the time allotted to general input, it was suggested that too much time was taken up with the reading of the notices by the pastor, and that lay persons in charge of events and activities could do this duty. Someone proposed that, for a three-month trial period, the notices should not be read out in Church at all, but printed and placed on the desk at the entrance, where they might be perused by anyone interested.

Discussion now turned to the problem of ensuring the continuation of the young people in the Church when they are too old to attend the various young people's groups. One of the main problems in this regard, was the language. It was pointed out that, unlike other Armenian Evangelical congregations, especially in the United States, most of the adult worshipers in our area are comfortable with the Armenian language, since most of them have immigrated from the Middle East not too long ago. Although the fact was acknowledged that a significant number of young Armenians are growing up without a good knowledge of their mother tongue, it was felt to be too early to think of having the Service conducted in English. It was noted that we already have electronic translation for the few visitors who need it.

Some further suggestions regarding the continuity problem, included the encouraging of young people to lead the Service, getting them to read the notices relating to their own activities, and reading the Scriptures assigned by the pastor.



The day's agenda was concluded by Holy Communion, a solemn act of obedience to the behest of our Lord, Jesus Christ, which brings a special joy to the heart of the true believer. Then, after the singing of Hayr Mehr, the Kingston conference was concluded for another year. G

## Donation in Lieu of Wedding Gifts



*Dr. & Mrs. Arto and Fimi Haddadian with Michael Agbabian who informed them about the AMAA Orphan Child Care Program.*

The Orphan Care Committee of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) most recently was the recipient of a donation of \$22,000 from a newly married couple. Dr. and Mrs. Arto and Fimi Haddadian had requested that their friends and relatives make donations in lieu of wedding gifts for the orphan children of Armenia. They had decided to share their happy occasion with the children in the orphanages by making this substantial donation. They said: "We have everything we need. God has blessed us in many different ways. We want to share our happiness with the children who are deprived of many privileges."

The money that was donated by the friends and relatives of the Haddadians will be used in several orphanages that the AMAA supports. It will be used to buy food supplies for their daily needs, clothing, personal hygiene, and vitamins and school supplies. The children will also enjoy special programs during the summer as well as Christmas and Easter holidays. During the summer months, the children will attend summer camps where they will enjoy physi-

*(continued on the following page)*

**The AMAA-Peninsula Chapter Holds a Mediterranean Luncheon to Benefit Children of Armenian Evangelical Schools in the Middle East**



**The committee members:** (front row l to r) Arpi Halebian, Margaret Watson, Seta Yenikomshian, Anayis Adrouny, Marie Galustian; (second row l to r) Lara Khoury, Elizabeth Yeghyayan, Shake Gulessarian, Kris Gulessarian, Nora Balabanian.

On Sunday, August 25th, Friends of the AMAA - Peninsula Chapter, held a Mediterranean Luncheon for 130 guests in Halajian Hall at Calvary Armenian Congregational Church in San Francisco. The featured presentation was given by Helen Sagherian. A PowerPoint presentation was prepared by Mrs. Sevan Balabanian (who was unable to be present) on the current status of Armenian Schools in Lebanon and Syria. In addition, the attendees enjoyed a beautiful selection of Armenian and spiritual songs preformed by the talented Calvary Church Male Quartet.

The guests were treated to a delicious lunch, which was lovingly prepared by the AMAA committee members (pictured above). The menu included homemade Shawarma, authentic Fool Moudammis, and sweet, cheesy Mammunia. In addition, several guests reviewed letters written by Armenian children from Lebanon and signed up to sponsor these children in their education. The AMAA - Peninsula Chapter is committed in their efforts to raise money to help in the education of children in Armenian Evangelical schools in the Middle East. Their next function is a Christmas Luncheon and Boutique on December 6th, 2002. G

*(continued from previous page)*

cal activities, arts and crafts, hiking, and special musical programs and Bible stories.

The orphan children in Armenia are not only the victims of the 1988 earthquake but also of the Karabagh war where their fathers or mothers never returned home. More recently, many of the fathers have left home to find employment outside of Armenia, and they too have not returned for reasons unknown.

The AMAA Orphan Care Committee appreciates the generous gesture of Dr. and Mrs. Haddadian and persons like them who brighten the lives of the orphans of Armenia and give them joy and hope.

If you would like to get involved in the AMAA Orphan Care Project please call: 310 476 5306 (Los Angeles); 760 568 3920 (Indian Wells) or 201 265 2607 (AMMA headquarters at Paramus, NJ). G

**Armenian Evangelicals Meet With His Holiness Catholicos Aram I**



*(l to r) Rev. Dr. John Khanjian, Mr. Andrew Torigian, His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, Rev. Megerdich Karagoezian and Rev. Dr. Manuel Jinbachian.*

L ed by the AMAA President, Andy Torigian, the Armenian Evangelical leadership in the Near East met with His Holiness Catholicos Aram I at his summer residence in Bikfaya, Lebanon. The Armenian community in Lebanon and Syria, along with many of the indigenous people, are served by several joint projects that are sponsored and maintained by the Apostolate and the Evangelicals. The cooperation between the two has been a major benefit to the local and nearby countries regardless of race, religion or political beliefs. The services provided for the most part are without charge to the indigent Armenians. G

**CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER**

*The AMAA's Armenia Summer Camp and Chritmas Committee will hold its Second Annual "A Christmas in October" luncheon to benefit Christmas Joy Packages for the children of Armenia and Karabagh, on Thursday, October 24, at 11:30 a.m. at Englewood Women's Club, Englewood, NJ. Each Christmas Joy Package will cost about \$5.00 .*

*If you are unable to be with us on October 24th, you may wish to make a donation in lieu of gift packages and send it to the AMAA. Your donation will bring much joy into the lives of thousands of Armenian orphans and needy children. For more information, please call Louisa Janbazian at the AMAA Office (201) 265-2607.*

*I am unable to attend the "Christmas in October" event for children in Armenia. Enclosed is my donation of US \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas Joy Packages.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

*(Make your checks to AMAA, earmarked for Christmas Joy Packages and mail to 31 W. Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652)*

## Lols ke t; snh 9W; r1 Mowshs P1 Yanpax; an3 T; si lqi ou A5aq; louj ; an Marde0 Gi rqe

Gra. 7s; z3 W; r1 Parg; u Ni Taragy; an

Fal Au; taranakan grakanouj i une ,at vlat gtnoua6 h k; nsagrouj ; an marxi n mh=! C; nq kar6; r or asor patya5e arvanauor an]; rou cgo\ouj i unn h fal au; taranakan fama\lnqin mh=! Ardar; u fal au; taranakann; r ir; nz j i un f; t fam; mata64 ,at acqa5ou mtauorakann; r4 >7sqin qaroxi cn; r4 enk; ra\in 6a5a\ouj ; an noui roua6 an]; r4 ou axgalin gor6icn; r toua6 ;n fal vo[owourdin! Dvba. tabar4 k; nsagrakan s; 5e fal au; taranakan grakanouj ; an mh= ,at4 ;u f; t; uo[akan m,ako[n; r ch oun; za6! Endfanraphs bauararoua6 ;nq parb; raj ;rj ;rou mh= droua6 patafakan k; nsagrouj i unn; row! W; r=; rs lo\ls en6a\ouj; zau gi rq me3 m; r w; j ;ran gri cn; rhn W; r1 Dok t1 Wafan Jouj i k; ani ko[mh oroun mh= n; rka\azoua6 hi n w; r=i n khs daroun Am; ri ka\i Mi az; al Nafangn; roun mh= 6a5a\la64 ou a\vm 6a5a\lo[ fog; uor fowi un; rou k; nsagrouj i unn; re! Bar]r7rhn gnafat; low fand; r] li ; al fatorin patmakan ;u a5arka\akan arvhqe fal au; taranakan patmagrouj ; an4 ou m; r ;k; [; zi n; roun famar4 phtq h endouni l j h anonoq fama57t di mastou; rn; r ;n l r au; li qan tarin; rou patmouj ; an enj azqin fal au; taranakan grakanouj i une faxi u j h \a=a6 h fanrouj ; an framzn; l ;rkotasn; ak me k; nsagrakan fatorn; r oronq ; [a6 ;n au; li anfatakan na. a]; 5nouj i unn; r4 qan j h ;k; [; zakan kam fama\lnqalin fratarakouj i unn; r! K3arvh or w; ri n marmi nn; re nkat i oun; nan als paragan ;u fanrouj ; an n; rka\azn; n fal au; taranakan a\ln bolor dhmq; re oronq baza5i k 6a5a\ouj i unn; r matouza6 ;n o\c mi a\ln fal au; taranakan fama\lnqin4 fapa na; u endfanour falouj ; an!

Bar; li ,atak W; r1 Dok t1 Mowshs Yanpax; ani noui roua6 als fatore fam; st =anq men h als ou[[ouj ; amb4 a\ln gi takzouj ; amb j h anor k; anqn ou a\vmhakan patgamm; re oc mi a\ln pi ti farstazn; n fal au; taranakan grakanouj i une4 fapa m; 6 axd; zouj i un pi ti oun; nan au; taranakan n; rka\ ou gali q s; roundn; roun wra!

Fal Au; taranakan <arvoume ; rkna\in t; si lqi ou a5aq; louj ; an argasi qn h3 76oua6 x7raza64 ou ardi unauoroua6 Sourb Fogi i n n; rgor6ouj i unow! Ardar; u a5anz Sourb Fogi i n \a\tnab; ra6 ; rkna\in t; si lqi n4 kar; li ch mta6; l a5aq; louj ; an masin4 ou manauahd\ anfnaxand ellal anor! Afa j h inco2u Fal Au; taranakan <arvoume ou :k; [; zi n anemb5n; li3 ces; lou famar anf; j ;j3 ke nkatoi n m; r axgaki zn; rhn omanz ko[mh! Lauago\ln paraga\i n3 anonoq ke famaroui n fog; uor4 saka\ln4 oc-anfrav; ,t p; ryanq me fal vo[owourdin k; anqi n mh=

Mowshs Yanpax; ani k; anqn ou 6a5a\ouj i unn; re kougan ' ast; lou j h Qristosi :k; [; zi n safmanoua6

ch fog; uor p; ryanq me da5nalou4 o\c al patmakan koj o[ me! Qristos ir :k; [; zi n kanc; z m; 5n; lou4 ou i r mafouan gnow k; anq talou m; [auor ou j ,oua5 mardkouj ; an! :k; [; zi n4 i r Tiro= phs4 kancoua6 ch spasauorouj i un endoun; lou4 fapa spasauorouj i un en; lou4 9ou i r k; anqe ,at; rou famar ' rkanq talou0! Afa a\ls h or ke =anal zo\z tal Mowshsi k; anqin noui roua6 als fatore! Als paraga\i n4 aproua6 tarin; rou j i ue ch or k3arv; uorh an] me4 i ma# Mowshs Yanpax; ane4 fapa i r ;n ,norfoua6 t; si lqi n gi takzouj i une4 ;u i r fauatarim fnaxandouj i une a\l d t; si lqi n3 minc; u i maf! Mowshsin k; anqe ; u als fatorin mh= par' akoua6 i r patgamm; re endoun; lou ;nq i br; u zolaram4 na; u lou, arar3 Fal Au; taranakan :k; [; zi n ,norfoua6 ; rkna\in t; si lqi n ou a5aq; louj ; an!

Astoua6 xarmanali k; rp; row ke gor6h axg; rou ;u ;k; [; zi n; rou k; anqin mh=! An \armar vamanaki n3 \armar an]; r k3entrh4 anonz t; si lq ke ,norfh4 na; u ke x7raznh xanonq orphsxi fnaxandouj ; amb4 ;u famb; rouj ; amb gor6adr; n i r; nz ,norfoua6 t; si lqe! Krnanq anw; rapaf7rhn es; l j h m; r axgin mh=3 endfanraphs4 ou Fal Au; taranakan Fama\lnqin ou :k; [; zi i k; anqin mh= masnauoraphs4 nman7ri nak an] me ; [au Mowshs! M; r fal vo[owourdin w; r=i n qa5ord darou patmouj i une ; [au w; ri wa\roumn; row l; zoun vamanaka, r=an me! Falastane4 incphs na; u s' i u5qafalouj i une3 ; nj arkou; zan `i xi qakan4 qa[qakan4 enk; raln4 ;u fog; uor znzoumn; rou! Fal vo[owourdin f; t4 ou fal vo[owourdow3 Fal Au; taranakan Fama\lnqin al i r ;k; [; zi n; row4 ou \atkaphs Am; ri ka\i Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; - rakzouj i unow gtan ir; nq xi r; nq anna. enj az ou 6a\ral; [7rhn wtangauor ;u spa5nali z marta-frauhrn; rou di maz! I br; u fal au; taranakann; r4 m; nq 6a5a\; lou hi nq m; r fal ;ni qin ;u axgin j h# fal7rhn4 j h al au; tarani fogi ow!

I br; u Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj ; an Waric Tn7rhn4 na; u a\ln 7r; rou Na. agafe Fama,, arfa\in Fal Au; taranakan :k; [; zi n; rou >orfoudi n3 Mowshs li owl ardarazouz ir wra\ droua6 \o\ls; re! T; si lqn ou a5aq; louj i une dar]an i r k; anqin xo\g b; u; 5n; re4 ou klan; zi n na; u i r entani qe! Falastan a.. arfe ou. tat; [i i w; ra6ou; zau i r; n famar! An mhk ko[mhn gor6akzakan s; rt kap; r fastat; z falr; ni qa[qakan ; u kr7nakan [; kawarn; rou f; t4 i sk mi us ko[mhn3 j ak; z 7tar ba\z falashr ;k; [; zakan fastatouj i unn; rou d5n; re4 apafow; low tnt; sakan ; u fog; uor-barolakan 7gnouj i un! An cwaran; zau =atagow; lou i r fal axgalin4 qristonhakan ; u

(, arounakouj i une la=ord h=i n wra)

## Fal Au; taranakan B; j hl : k; [; zi i Qristonhakan Dasti arakouj ; an K; droni Bazoume

**O**urbaj ԷՇ Ապրիլ 14 ՇԵՇ-ին ; r; kołman vame ՇԵՇ-ին t; [i oun; zau Fal Au; taranakan B; j hl : k; [; zi i 9Qristonhakan Dasti arakouj ; an K; droni bazman fandi souj i une4 noui roua63 W; r1 Parg; u A5aq; I Abard; ani \i , atakin! }; 5narke ke wa\; Ihr M; r]auor Ar; u; lqi Fal Au; taranakan : k; [; zi n; rou Mi ouj ; an Na. agaf3 W; r1 Mkrtic Garakh7x; ani fowanauorouj i une4 n; rka\ouj ; amb W; r1 Vi ra\l So[om; ani3 Gor6adi r Tn7rhne Am; ri ka\i Fal Au; taranakan Enk; rakzouj ; an4 W; r1 Au; tis Polnhr; ani3 Fama\lnqap; te Souriol Fal Au; taranakan Fama\lnqin4 Nar; k ^1 Wardap; t Alhmhx; ani4 Waric Qartou[are mi= ; k; [; zakan \arab; rouj i unn; rou4 incphs na; u Fa\kakan bar; si rakan4 krj akan ; u m, akouj alin mi ouj i unn; rou ou fastatouj i unn; rou n; rka\azouzi cn; rou ; u fo6 baxmouj ; an!

Fandi souj i une sksau W; r1 Mkrtic Garak7x; ani . 7sqow! An , ; , t; z4 j h Qristonhakan Dasti arakouj ; an a\ls k; drone , at \atouk anoun me ke krh; rkou i mast-n; row! A5a=i ne a\ln h4 or a\ls k; drone Qristonhakan Dasti arakouj ; an K; dron h! : rkrorde\ or ke krh Dasti araki me anoune3 W; r1 Parg; u A5aq; I Abard; an4 or ; [a6 h a\ls ; k; [; zi in xauake\ 6a5an4 ; u ; j h phtq h es; \3 als ; k; [; zi in dasti arake! W; rapatou; lin ma[j ; z ; u a[7j ; z4 or i uraqanci ur anfat or a\ls k; drone ke mtih4 a5i j e oun; na\ fandi p; lou Thr |i sous Qristosi k; ndani >7sqi n!

>7sq a5in na; u W; r1 Vi ra\l So[om; an4 Nar; k ^1

(Na. ord h=hn , arounakoua6)

au; taranakan skxbounqn; re\ qa[aqakan4 j h kr7nakan i .. anaurn; rou n; rka\ouj ; an! An , oun; ou fogi4 ; u i w; r=ol ari un touau ir staza6 ; rkna\in t; si lqe parx; lou\ ; u xaln gor6i w; ra6; lou yamboun wra\! A5anz waran; lou kar; li h es; l j h W; r1 Dok t1 Mowshs Yanpax; ani A\nyari ald wa[; mi gi u[azi patani4 dar]au Fal Au; taranakan Fama\lnq i ou : k; [; zi i d; pane ambo[= fa\la,.. arfi mh= Qani or an ir staza6 ; rkna\in t; si lqi n anfnaxand cgtnou; zau4 ou a5aq; louj ; anz dimaz cenkrk; zau!

Afa a\ls h or enj ; rzo[e pi ti gtih a\ls fatore kaxmo[ wka\aranin ; u patgamm; roun mh= Ou takaui n4 enj ; rzo[e pi ti cfandi pi a\ls gi rqi n mh= mi a\ln Mowshs Yanpax; ani me4 fapa anor t; si lq wstafo[4 ; u xaln gor6adr; lou famar olv4 ; u fnxandouj ; an fogi , norfo[ Sourb Fogi in! A\ls h afa gi rqi n martafrauhere fal au; taranakan nor s; roundi n4 our . namqow ; u gourgouranqow mhkt; [oua6 ; n Astou6ol a\ls 6a5aln patgamm; re4 ya5; re4 ou ir masin kataroua6 wka\ouj i unn; re\ katar; low ; ra. tauor a,, atanq me!G



W; r1 Mkrtic Garakh7x; an ke ktrh bazman vapauhne!

Wrd1 Alhmhx; an4 Thr Komi tas Wrd1 Tata[l; an ; u W; r1 \arouj i un Shlim; an! W; r1 Shlim; an \atouk , norfakalouj ; an . 7sq ou[ [; z NISI&TITI Aram Al Kaj o[i kosi n4 ir zouzab; ra6 m; 6 v; sti n famar4 noui r; low fog; uor grakanouj ; an ambo[=akan , arqe 9W; r1 Parg; u A5aq; I Abard; an0i anounin noui roua6 gradarani4 ; u Fal Au; taranakan B; j hl : k; [; zi i xauak3 Ti ar Kar7 So[omon; ani n (Si tni4 Australia)4 oroun katara6 i .. anakan noui ratououj ; an , norfi u\ Qristonhakan Dasti arakouj ; an K; droni srafe kafauorou; zau ; u anouanakocou; zau 9Kar7-Araqsi So[omon; an sraf0/G

**The AMAA Board of Directors and staff wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA News.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| * <b>Abajian, Henry</b><br>Altadena, CA      | * <b>Djerdjirian, Michael</b><br>Wappingers, NY  |
| <b>Archanian, Bedros</b><br>Watervliet, NY   | * <b>Fakhjian, Jack</b><br>Tustin, CA            |
| * <b>Bedrosian, Ted</b><br>San Francisco, CA | * <b>Giridlian, Venus</b><br>Altadena, CA        |
| <b>Boolghoorjian, Barkey</b><br>Van Nuys, CA | <b>Koligian, Deran</b><br>Manhattan Beach, CA    |
| <b>Byfield, Jenny</b>                        | <b>Kanarian, Shavarsh</b><br>Clovis, CA          |
| <b>Chakmakjian, Sarah</b><br>Hollywood, CA   | <b>Marks, Irwin</b><br>Ft. Washington, NY        |
| * <b>Cherekjian, Arax</b><br>Nyack, NY       | * <b>Simsirian, Anahit</b><br>Ft. Washington, NY |
|  | * <b>Yeghiayan, Lucy</b>                         |

\* Memorials were designated for AMAA.

## OBITUARIES

### Dr. Haroutune Nazarian

Dr. Haroutune Nazarian was born in Aintab in 1907, to Hagop Nazarian and Rahel Karamanouyan.

Dr. Nazarian's life was one of many challenges. He witnessed the tragedy that befell his people during World War I. He witnessed the deportation of his family to Deir Zor, from where he miraculously survived and returned home.

In 1917, at the age of ten, Haroutune began attending a school. In 1918, with the involvement of British troops, survivors of the Der Zor deportation returned to what remained of Aintab. In 1923, the Nazarians relocated in Aleppo, where Haroutune resumed his education at the Armenian Evangelical School, excelling in his studies. At the same time he worked as a dental assistant, helping his family survive in their new home. He attended Aleppo College from 1926 to 1929; moving on to Kessab to practice dentistry in Kessab. After two years in Kessab, Haroutune resumed his education, attending the American University of Beirut, where he formally studied the profession he had been practicing: dentistry.

1937 marked the opening of a landmark in Aleppo: Dr. Nazarian's dental office and laboratory. For 54 years, it served the community. After office hours, countless church and other meetings were held in his "clinic."

In 1950, Dr. Nazarian wed the lovely nurse, Vehanoush Berejklian of Beirut. Hence, he created another facet in his life with Vehanoush. He became the father of four children, devoting his heart and soul to his family.

Dr. Nazarian was actively involved in the Armenian Evangelical Union in Syria, serving as a pillar of the Armenian Evangelical Martyrs' Church (Nahadagatz) in Aleppo.

In 1990, Dr. Nazarian settled in San Jose, California to enjoy his retirement days with his children and grandchildren.

In the end, Haroutune could look back on a lifetime of achievement, including active roles in prestigious organizations: a few of which include the Armenian Evangelical Union, the International College of Dentistry, the Aleppo Dental Association, AGBU, the Howard Karaguezian Foundation, Aleppo College Board of Managers, the Armenian Red Cross, and so forth. However, Haroutune's Lifetime Achievement Award would be for the love he provided to his wife and children, and eventu-



ally, seven grandchildren, and for passing on his love for life and church. For these, we honor him and his memory.

Dr. Nazarian is survived by his wife, Vehanoush, of San Jose, daughters, Perla Kotoyan, of Glendale, Alidz Nazarian and Nora Balabanian of San Jose, and son, Hagop Nazarian, of San Jose, as well as, six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in San Jose. A memorial, celebrating Dr. Nazarian's exemplary life, took place at Calvary Armenian Congregational Church in San Francisco. It was an opportunity to reflect on personal memories of Dr. Nazarian's blessed life. G

### Laura Nigolian

Laura Nigolian, 78, went to be with the Lord after a stroke and a short illness at Modesto Memorial Hospital. She was born in San Francisco on February 1, 1924. She was the grand daughter of the late Badveli Vartavar Alexandrian of Marzevan, and grand daughter in law of the late Mr. Vramchabou Kibarian, of Paris, France. She was the daughter of Garabed and Araxie Nazarian. Her twin brother Laurence Nazarian died a few years back. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Charles Nigolian; daughter Roxanne; son in law Guy; grand children, Lauren, Eric, Christine; three nephews in Los Angeles; the Nazarian brothers; two nephews in Paris, France; the Kazandjian Brothers; and her cousins, the Kibarians. A grave-side service was conducted on May 7, 2002 at Acacia Memorial Park by Rev. James Renke from the Orchard Baptist Church, and Deacon Thomas Maggiti from St. Paul Episcopal Church. Both clergy were friends of our family. Living in Sacramento, she was involved with St. James the Armenian Church, the Daughters of Vartan and the Triple X Armenian Organization. G



### Dr. John Nalbandian

Dr. John Nalbandian, 69, of Fourth Street, Boston, formerly of Cranston, a professor and researcher, died unexpectedly on March 27 in Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. He was the husband of Carolyn (Tatten) Nalbandian; they had been married for 32 years.

Born in Providence on November 27, 1932, a son of the late Martin and Anna (Haroutunian) Nalbandian, he had lived in Cranston before moving to Boston, and then in Farmington, Connecticut, from whence he returned to Boston three years ago.

A cum laude graduate of both Brown University in 1954 and Harvard University in 1958, he also had studied for two years at the University of Strasbourg, in France, where he completed electron microscopic studies of bone.

Dr. Nalbandian was a professor and researcher in the field of academic dentistry. He had served as chairman of the Operative Dentistry Department at Harvard University and as a member of the Harvard faculty until 1969, when he accepted a position at the University of Connecticut.

He served as a professor of periodontology at UConn from 1969 until his retirement, when he was named a professor emeritus. He also helped develop the university's health center, in Farmington, Connecticut, into a nationally recognized facility.

He enjoyed gardening and loved animals.

Besides his wife, he leaves a stepson, David Allen of Dorchester, Boston; a brother, Jack Nalbandian of Warwick; a sister, Sarah Mouradian of Cranston; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on April 26 at 2 p.m. in Harvard Memorial Church, Harvard Yard, Cambridge, MA. G

### Nevart C. Gulezian

Mrs. Nevart C. Gulezian, a woman of keen intelligence and a generous heart, died on May 16, 2002 in Philadelphia, after a period of declining health.

Born Nevart Chatalbash 95 years ago in the far-off town of Kharpert, Turkey, Nevart was a teenager when her family fled the area for a new beginning in America.

Nevart was the wife of the late Dr. Charles E. Gulezian, a teacher and research scientist. They had a son, Dr. Ronald Gulezian, a statistical consultant, lecturer and author. Ronald and his wife, Anna reside in Ardmore, Pennsylvania. Other survivors are a granddaughter, Lee, and her husband, Terry Crane and two great-grandchildren, Kate Lyn and Patrick.

Before Nevart married, she worked as a research technician at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia. Her experience there took place in the 1930's, when cancer was the emerging target for scientific inquiry and study. She

## OBITUARIES

became part of a pioneer group of earnest, young researchers assembled by the noted pathologist, the late Dr. Stanley Reimann, to examine and catalog tissue samples for abnormal cellular activity.

Dr. Reimann's visionary leadership was critical for the advancement of this early foray into cancer research promoted by the generous aid of Rodman Wanamaker. By 1949, this groundbreaking endeavor led to the highly regarded Institute for Cancer Research, a totally independent research center in Fox Chase outside Philadelphia.

After her husband's death in 1954, Nevart was employed by the School of Dentistry of Temple University where she was a respected figure in the Histology Department until her retirement after 20 years of loyal service.

To honor her pioneering spirit and dedication to her profession, a fitting memorial will be placed in North Truro, Massachusetts, near the site of a primitive summer research laboratory where Nevart developed life-long friendships with members of the Research Team.G

### James Renjilian

James Renjilian, long an active and vibrant member of the Armenian community, died on May 21, 2002 in Germantown, Maryland of complications from a stroke. He was 64.

Born a refugee in Athens, Greece on December 17, 1937, Jim emigrated to the United States with his mother, Verjin Giragossian Renjilian, in 1939. His father, the Rev. Mihran Renjilian, had come to the U.S. some months earlier with Jim's older siblings Armen and Anne.

Reunited in the U.S., the Renjilians lived first in Washington, D.C. but eventually settled in Troy, N.Y. where Rev. Renjilian led the United Armenian Calvary Church. There, Jim attended Troy High School and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

After serving as an intelligence officer in the Army, Jim attended George Washington University law school. Following a brief stint with General Electric in the Boston area, Jim worked as an attorney at the United States Patent Office in Washington, D.C. He remained with the Federal government throughout his career, serving at the Securities and

Exchange Commission, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and the Department of Energy.

Jim's life is warmly remembered by family and friends for four overarching themes: his devotion to family; his commitment to community; his pride in his Armenian heritage; and his dedication to his Christian faith. He was also known to many as a particularly avid collector of toy soldiers, having amassed hundreds of figures that he displayed prominently in his home. Finally, he enjoyed a reputation as a keen and passionate observer of political affairs.

Jim's many community and civic interests included serving as an elder of Southminster Presbyterian Church and, later, Rockville (Md.) Presbyterian Church. He was also an active adult troop leader in the Boy Scouts of America. In addition, Jim played a prominent role in the Armenian Assembly, where he was especially focused on achieving official recognition from the United States government of the Armenian Genocide.

Funeral services were held at Rockville Presbyterian Church, Rockville, MD on Friday, May 24, 2002 followed by the interment at Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington D.C. Memorial contributions were made to the AMAA.

Jim is survived by his sister, Anne Kalfayan, of Marco Island, FL; his brother Armen Renjilian of Albany, N.Y.; his son Christopher Renjilian of Potomac, MD; his daughter Julia Luther of North Bethesda, MD; and his son Timothy Renjilian of Atlanta, GA. He also leaves behind three granddaughters whom he dearly adored.

Additional information about James Renjilian can be found on the Internet at [www.lifefiles.com](http://www.lifefiles.com).G

### Marie Ilanjian

Marie Ilanjian (née Kahkejian, a.k.a. Buchakjian) was born on January 1, 1924 in Beirut, Lebanon. She was the first-born of Garabed and Beatrice Kahkejian, second-generation members of the Armenian Evangelical Community of Aintab (Cilicia). She loved her parents deeply, and had exemplary care for her siblings - Alice, Armenia (predeceased), Anahid and Shakeh.



She was a graduate of the Armenian Evangelical College (1942), the Beirut College for Women and the Near East School of Theology (1948). For over a lustrum, she was the office secretary of the Armenian Christian Endeavor Union in Lebanon, serving under the then Executive Secretary of the Christian Endeavor Union, the late Rev. Puzant Kalfayan. She distinguished herself as a highly efficient, diligent and faithful worker. In 1949 she was married to a fellow seminary graduate, Zenas Ilanjian. They were blessed with five children - Hratch, Grace, Vartan, Betty and Garo, and eight grandchildren. Throughout the span of fifty three years, she proved to be a dedicated spouse, a staunch supporter and a faithful partner to her husband in whatever responsibility they were entrusted with. Most importantly, she was faithful to Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior. No wordly allurement or enticement, riches, ornaments or pleasures of life could deviate her from her commitment to the Lord. She was faithful to the Armenian Evangelical legacy, without any shadow of bigotry. She was true to the Armenian heritage and was an avid reader of Armenian books.

The war that broke out in 1975 in Lebanon, forced them to seek other possibilities for service. In 1976, after surviving the initial perils of mounting hostilities, the Ilanjian family, by the grace of God was established in New York. Together they served the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York and six other American Congregational churches in New York State.

The years of retirement were a mixed blessing. Family fellowship, the rejuvenating impact of the presence of grandchildren, the visits of colleagues, friends, and kindred minds were exceptional sources of inspiration and enriched livings. Yet the relenting or cessation of the organized ministry of yesterday generated traumatic waves in the soul. The incursion of physical ailments into what was a robust constitution played further havoc with the God-given edifice that eventually succumbed to devastation to signal the imminent moment when she would be prepared to meet her Creator.

In all these vicissitudes of life, Marie Ilanjian remained unshakable. On Sunday, June 9, 2002, after all medical services were exhaustively rendered, on this day of rest, she was called into the eternal hall of rest and heavenly bliss.

Funeral services for Marie Ilanjian were held on Wednesday, June 12, at the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ. Donations in lieu of flowers were sent to the AMAA.G

# **OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 83<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

The Eighty Third Annual Meeting of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc. (AMAA), will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2002, at 10:00 a.m. at the AMAA Headquarters, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ.

All members of the AMAA are invited to attend the meeting to:

- I. Consider and approve the reports of the Officers, Executive Director, Committees, Chapters, and Affiliated Boards of the Association for fiscal 2001-2002;
- II. Consider and approve the financial reports for fiscal 2001-2002;
- III. Announce the results of the elected eight Board members to replace those whose terms have expired;
- IV. Elect four members to the Nominating Committee;
- V. Elect an Auditor;
- VI. Consider and approve the Association's budget for fiscal 2002-2003;
- VII. Consider and act upon any other business that may legitimately come before the membership.

## **PROGRAM OF THE 83<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING ACTIVITIES**

### **Thursday, October 17**

9:30 a.m. .... Armenian Evangelical World Council Meeting

### **Friday, October 18**

9:30 a.m. .... Celebration of 75th Anniversary of Panpere and Introduction of 1700th Anniversary Western Armenian Reference Bible and "Bible Reader" Software

2:00 p.m. .... AMAA Mission Goals and Evaluation

7:00 p.m. .... Board of Directors' Meeting

### **Saturday, October 19**

9:30 a.m. .... 83<sup>RD</sup> Annual Meeting

2:00 p.m. .... Board of Directors' Meeting

7:00 p.m. .... AMAA Banquet and Artistic Program

### **Sunday, October 20**

11:00 a.m. .... Annual Meeting Worship Service

As members of the AMAA world-wide family, we look forward to this annual gathering to renew our ties of fellowship as Armenian Evangelical churches and communities, and to strengthen our common mission around the world. With joy we eagerly anticipate your presence and participation.

**Armenian Missionary Association of America**

31 West Century Road

Paramus, NJ 07652

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Paramus, NJ  
Permit No. 55